

Amendments to the Claims:

1-37. (Cancelled)

38. (New) A method for use with a keyboard that is interfaced with an electronic component, the keyboard including a 3 x 3 matrix of keys in which each of the numerals 1 through 9 inclusive is displayed on a respective key, the keyboard including first, second, and third rows, wherein:

the first row includes three keys displaying the numerals 1, 2, and 3, respectively, in that order;

the second row includes three keys displaying the numerals 4, 5, and 6, respectively, in that order;

the third row includes three keys displaying the numerals 7, 8, and 9, respectively, in that order;

the numeral 2 key has the letters A, B, and C thereon;

the numeral 3 key has the letters D, E, and F thereon;

the numeral 4 key has the letters G, H, and I thereon;

the numeral 5 key has the letters J, K, and L thereon;

the numeral 6 key has the letters M, N, and O thereon;

the numeral 7 key has the letters P, Q, R, and S thereon;

the numeral 8 key has the letters T, U, and V thereon; and

the numeral 9 key has the letters W, X, Y, and Z thereon; the method comprising:

inputting the letter A into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 2 key and the numeral 1 key;

inputting the letter B into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 2 key and the numeral 2 key;

inputting the letter C into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 2 key and the numeral 3 key;

inputting the letter D into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 3 key and the numeral 1 key;

inputting the letter E into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 3 key and the numeral 2 key;

inputting the letter F into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 3 key and the numeral 3 key;

inputting the letter G into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 4 key and the numeral 4 key;

inputting the letter H into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 4 key and the numeral 5 key;

inputting the letter I into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 4 key and the numeral 6 key;

inputting the letter J into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 5 key and the numeral 4 key;

inputting the letter K into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 5 key and the numeral 5 key;

inputting the letter L into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 5 key and the numeral 6 key;

inputting the letter M into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 6 key and the numeral 4 key;

inputting the letter N into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 6 key and the numeral 5 key;

inputting the letter O into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 6 key and the numeral 6 key;

inputting the letter T into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 8 key and the numeral 7 key;

inputting the letter U into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 8 key and the numeral 8 key; and

inputting the letter V into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 8 key and the numeral 9 key.

39. (New) The method of Claim 38, comprising:

inputting the letter P into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 7 key;

inputting the letter R into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 8 key;

inputting the letter S into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 9 key;

inputting the letter W into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 7 key;

inputting the letter X into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 8 key; and

inputting the letter Y into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 9 key.

40. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein:

the letters A, D, G, J, M, T, the numeral 1 key, the numeral 4 key, and the numeral 7 key are marked with a first color;

the letters B, E, H, K, N, U, the numeral 2 key, the numeral 5 key, and the numeral 8 key are marked with a second color; and

the letters C, F, I, L, O, V, the numeral 3 key, the numeral 6 key, and the numeral 9 key are marked with a third color, in which the first, second, and third colors are different from each other.

41. (New) The method of Claim 40, comprising:

inputting the letter P into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 7 key;

inputting the letter R into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 8 key;

inputting the letter S into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 9 key;

inputting the letter W into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 7 key;

inputting the letter X into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 8 key; and

inputting the letter Y into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 9 key.

42. (New) The method of Claim 41, wherein:

the letters P, W, and the numeral 7 key are marked with the first color;

the letters R, X, and the numeral 8 key are marked with the second color; and

the letters S, Y, and the numeral 9 key are marked with the third color.

43. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein:

the letters A, D, G, J, M, T, the numeral 1 key, the numeral 4 key, and the numeral 7 key are marked with a first pattern;

the letters B, E, H, K, N, U, the numeral 2 key, the numeral 5 key, and the numeral 8 key are marked with a second pattern; and

the letters C, F, I, L, O, V, the numeral 3 key, the numeral 6 key, and the numeral 9 key are marked with a third pattern, in which the first, second, and third patterns are different from each other.

44. (New) The method of Claim 43, comprising:

inputting the letter P into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 7 key;

inputting the letter R into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 8 key;

inputting the letter S into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 9 key;

inputting the letter W into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 7 key;

inputting the letter X into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 8 key; and

inputting the letter Y into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 9 key.

45. (New) The method of Claim 44, wherein:

the letters P, W, and the numeral 7 key are marked with the first pattern;

the letters R, X, and the numeral 8 key are marked with the second pattern; and

the letters S, Y, and the numeral 9 key are marked with the third pattern.

46. (New) A method for use with a keyboard that is interfaced with an electronic component, the keyboard including a 3 x 3 matrix of keys in which each of the numerals 1 through 9 inclusive is displayed on a respective key, the keyboard including first, second, and third rows, wherein:

the first row includes three keys displaying the numerals 1, 2, and 3, respectively, in that order;

the second row includes three keys displaying the numerals 4, 5, and 6, respectively, in that order;

the third row includes three keys displaying the numerals 7, 8, and 9, respectively, in that order;

the numeral 2 key has the letters A, B, and C thereon;

the numeral 3 key has the letters D, E, and F thereon;

the numeral 4 key has the letters G, H, and I thereon;

the numeral 5 key has the letters J, K, and L thereon;

the numeral 6 key has the letters M, N, and O thereon;

the numeral 7 key has the letters P, Q, R, and S thereon;

the numeral 8 key has the letters T, U, and V thereon; and

the numeral 9 key has the letters W, X, Y, and Z thereon; the method comprising:

inputting the letter A into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 2 key and the numeral 2 key;

inputting the letter B into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 2 key and the numeral 5 key;

inputting the letter C into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 2 key and the numeral 8 key;

inputting the letter D into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 3 key and the numeral 3 key;

inputting the letter E into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 3 key and the numeral 6 key;

inputting the letter F into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 3 key and the numeral 9 key;

inputting the letter G into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 4 key and the numeral 1 key;

inputting the letter H into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 4 key and the numeral 4 key;

inputting the letter I into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 4 key and the numeral 7 key;

inputting the letter J into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 5 key and the numeral 2 key;

inputting the letter K into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 5 key and the numeral 5 key;

inputting the letter L into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 5 key and the numeral 8 key;

inputting the letter M into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 6 key and the numeral 3 key;

inputting the letter N into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 6 key and the numeral 6 key;

inputting the letter O into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 6 key and the numeral 9 key;

inputting the letter T into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 8 key and the numeral 2 key;

inputting the letter U into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 8 key and the numeral 5 key; and

inputting the letter V into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 8 key and the numeral 8 key.

47. (New) The method of Claim 46, comprising:

inputting the letter P into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 7 key and the numeral 1 key; and

inputting the letter W into the electronic component by selecting, in order, the numeral 9 key and the numeral 3 key.

48. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein:

the letters A, D, G, J, M, T, the numeral 1 key, the numeral 2 key, and the numeral 3 key are marked with a first color;

the letters B, E, H, K, N, U, the numeral 4 key, the numeral 5 key, and the numeral 6 key are marked with a second color; and

the letters C, F, I, L, O, V, the numeral 7 key, the numeral 8 key, and the numeral 9 key are marked with a third color, wherein the first, second, and third colors are different from each other.

49. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein the letters P and W are marked with the first color.

50. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein:

the letters A, D, G, J, M, T, the numeral 1 key, the numeral 2 key, and the numeral 3 key are marked with a first pattern;

the letters B, E, H, K, N, U, the numeral 4 key, the numeral 5 key, and the numeral 6 key are marked with a second pattern; and

the letters C, F, I, L, O, V, the numeral 7 key, the numeral 8 key, and the numeral 9 key are marked with a third pattern, wherein the first, second, and third pattern are different from each other.

51. (New) The method of Claim 50, wherein the letters P and W are marked with the first pattern.